

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 507

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5102

DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC

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S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 1283

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, US, NATO

SUBJ: CEP: INDUSTRIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE (IPC) REPORT ON CIVIL/
MILITARY COOPERATION: AMMUNITION LEAD-TIME STUDY

REF: USNATO 1154 (NOTAL)

SECDEF FOR OASD I&L; COMMERCE FOR BODC; DEPT OF ARMY
FOR DCS-RDA AND DCS-LOG.

SUMMARY: SENIOR CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (SCEPC)
AGREED TO FORWARD SUBJECT REPORT TO COUNCIL ON URGENT
BASIS. USNATOREQUESTS THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES REVIEW
REPORT, WHICH HIGHLIGHTS INABILITY OF NATO PRODUCTION BASE
TO RESUPPLY AMMUNITION CONSUMED BY D PLUS 30. END SUMMARY.

1. USNATO REQUESTS THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES CLOSELY
EXAMINE THE INDUSTRIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE (IPC) STUDY ON
THE PRODUCTION LEAD-TIME REQUIRED TO REPLENISH D PLUS 30 SUPPLIES
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FOR SIX AMMUNITION ITEMS CONSIDERED REPRESENTATIVE BY
SHAPE (IN 1972 TIME FRAME WHEN STUDY WAS STARTED) FOR
DEVELOPMENT OF U.S. POSITION WHEN DOCUMENT REACHES
COUNCIL. INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD INCLUDE FOLLOW-UP

ACTION, NOT ONLY IN VIEW OF THE CURRENT DEFICIENCIES IN STOCK LEVELS OF AMMUNITION WITH ALLIANCE, BUT ALSO DEFICIENCIES WHICH THIS STUDY REVEALS FROM A PRODUCTION VIEWPOINT.

2. AS REPORTED UNDER ITEM VIII, REFTTEL, ON SCEPC MEETING FEBRUARY 26-28, THE NETHERLANDS REP (HOFMAN) AT THAT MEETING DID NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS AND PLACED A RESERVATION ON THE DECISION TO FORWARD STUDY RESULTS TO THE COUNCIL. SINCE WE EXPECT THE NETHERLANDS WILL LIFT THEIR RESERVATION SHORTLY, COUNCIL MAY RECEIVE DOCUMENT BY MIDDLE OF APRIL. SCEPC DISCUSSION OF SUBJECT OPENED WITH UK REP (DOBLE) SUGGESTING THAT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE (MC) STUDY THE DOCUMENT FIRST, SINCE IT APPEARED TO BE A MATTER MORE APPROPRIATE FOR DISCUSSION BY MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES. THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF (KIMS) REP (COL. HERTEL) ADVISED THAT THE MILITARY APPRECIATION AS QUOTED IN PARA 5 OF AC/98-D/750 (NATO SECRET) FULLY COVERED THE "MILITARY APPRECIATION" AS REQUESTED BY THE IPC ADHOC STUDY GROUP. HE ADDED THAT THE STUDIES MENTIONED IN THE BASIC REPORT (AC/143-D/358 OF 12 DEC, 1974 - NATO SECRET) ACKNOWLEDGED STUDIES UNDERWAY IN MILITARY CHANNELS WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY REACH THE MC AND WILL ALSO BE SENT TO THE COUNCIL. THE IMS REP (COL. HERTEL) FELT THAT THE IPC STUDY SHOULD NOT BE DELAYED UNTIL MC ACTION WAS COMPLETED. THE CHAIRMAN (DEVEGLIA) REMINDED THE COMMITTEE THAT WHILE THE MC STUDIES DEALT PRIMARILY WITH STOCK LEVELS, THE IPC REPORT DEALS WITH THE PRODUCTION BASE AND LEAD TIMES REQUIRED FOR RESUPPLY. BASED ON THIS INFORMATION, THE UK REP AGREED TO FORWARD THE REPORT TO THE COUNCIL. THE DANISH REP (VINTHER) STATED THAT WHILE HIS AUTHORITIES ARE NORMALLY RELUCTANT TO FORWARD TECHNICAL REPORTS TO THE COUNCIL, THEY FELT THAT IN THIS CASE THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE REPORT. HE STATED THAT THE DANISH POLICY AS REGARDS RESUPPLY WAS THAT DENMARK WOULD GIVE PRIORITY IN THE FIRST INSTANCE TO FULFILLING THE 30 DAY STOCK LEVEL REQUIREMENT, WHILE NOTING THE NATO POLICY THAT RESUPPLY WAS DEPENDENT ON INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS. THE SECRET

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U.S. REP (CRONIN) STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE REPORT AND URGED IT BE FORWARDED TO THE COUNCIL WITHOUT DELAY. OTHER THAN THE STATEMENT BY THE NETHERLANDS REP ADVISING HE DID NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS, OTHER NATIONAL REPS DID NOT COMMENT ON THE REPORT OTHER THAN TO AGREE TO SENDING IT TO THE COUNCIL ON AN URGENT BASIS.

4. USNATO NOTES THAT US PRODUCTION EXPERTS MIGHT DISAGREE WITH DETAILS OF THIS REPORT, E.G., SAMPLE USED, CONSUMPTION RATES, ETC. LACK OF RESUPPLY PRODUCTION CAPABILITY OR PLANNING THEREFORE IS A SERIOUS DEFICIENCY IN AN ALLIANCE IN WHICH SOME MEMBERS HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT THE NEED FOR STOCKS SUFFICIENT TO D PLUS 30.

NATIONAL REPLIES TO THE STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE SURPRISINGLY REVEALED AN INTERDEPENDENCE, HITHERTO UNKNOWN OR UNAPPRECIATED, FOR SUPPLY OF COMPONENTS USED IN PRODUCTION FOR REPLENISHMENT OF STOCKS BEING CONSUMED IN PEACETIME. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONNAIRE ALSO REVEALED COMPLETE LACK OF PLANNING AS TO SOURCE OR SOURCES OF REPLENISHMENT FOR WARTIME CONSUMPTION.

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5. SINCE AMMUNITION IS A LARGE TONNAGE ITEM IN COMBAT RESUPPLY, HAS A CERTAIN DEGREE OF STANDARDIZATION, HAS A UNIQUELY HIGHER PRODUCTION LEAD TIME VERSUS EXPENDITURE TIME THAN MOST OTHER ORDNANCE ITEMS, AND LENDS ITSELF IN SOME INSTANCES TO "WARM" PRODUCTION BASE PLANNING, USNATO SUGGESTS INVESTIGATION OF SEVERAL APPROACHES:

A. AS A FIRST STEP, WASHINGTON MIGHT CONSIDER PRODUCTION ASPECTS OF THOSE AMMUNITION ITEMS WHICH ARE COMMON TO US FORCES AND SOME ALLIES. THROUGH MAAG CHANNELS ON A BILATERAL ITEM-BY-ITEM BASIS THE US COULD INITIATE DISCUSSION OF MUTUAL PLANS TO OVERCOME DEFICIENCIES IN PRODUCTION PLANNING. THESE DISCUSSIONS COULD LEAD TO BILATERAL AGREEMENTS OR MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING WHICH WOULD COMMIT THE US TO BACK UP ALLIED PRODUCTION PLANS FOR SELECTED ITEMS.

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B. IN THE MUCH MORE BROAD AREA OF NATO-WIDE AMMUNITION PRODUCTION REQUIREMENTS (INCLUDING ITEMS NOT COMMON TO US FORCES) WASHINGTON MIGHT CONSIDER RECOMMENDING A SIMILAR APPROACH TO THAT SUGGESTED ABOVE FOR CONSIDERATION BY OTHER ARMAMENTS PRODUCING ALLIES. THE US COULD SUGGEST THAT EACH NATO ALLY CONSIDER IN DEPTH ITS CAPABILITIES FOR MOST EFFICIENT PRODUCTION OF SELECTED AMMUNITION ITEMS AND ESTABLISH BILATERAL AGREEMENTS AS REQUIRED WITH OTHER CONSUMER NATIONS NOW IN A SERIOUS STOCKPILE DEFICIT SITUATION.

C. AFTER AN APPROPRIATE PERIOD FOR DETAILED STUDY BY ALLIES (AND THE US) OF ACTUAL REQUIREMENTS (NOT LIMITED TO THE REPRESENTATIVE ITEMS IDENTIFIED BY SHAPE) THE IPC, IN CONJUNCTION WITH SHAPE, COULD HOLD A FULL-SCALE REVIEW OF THIS IMPORTANT AREA.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON REVIEW OF REPORT AND COMMENTS. BRUCE

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DEPT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF PREPAREDNESS, GSA
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DEPT OF ARMY
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